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ender to avoid delays on account of absence letters to THE STAR should addressed to any individual connected effice, but simply to THE STAR, or to torial or Business Department according

#### The District's Interest Debt.

Controller Downey's decision that the Secretary of the Treasury has no power to reimburse the United States directly from local funds in his care for the District's share of the interest on the 3.65 bonds for the years 1877 and 1878, without legislation, supplements his ruling of ast January, in which he held that the United States has, since 1878, been obliged to pay half of the interest on the entire funded debt. It had been discovered in the course of a long and expensive inquiry that, owing to the faulty bookkeeping of the United States, the advances of money by the federal government to pay the District's half of this interest for two years had never been refunded. Now the controller delares that unless and until Congress grants specific authority the Secretary of the Treasury cannot refund the amount to the United States.

tion of the District that the United States esumed definitely and deliberately half the laurden of National Capital mainteance when in 1878 it adopted an organic net for the District government. The controller in both of his formal rulings so regards the legislation of thirty-six and one-half years ago. Under them there can be no revival of the former claim that the District owes the United States that part of the sinking fund for the retirement of bonds which was contributed by the federal government under the half-and-half clause. There reains now only the equitable consideration of whether Congress should require he refunding of an interest charge for \$77-5 which has stood all these years without claim until very recently.

For thirty-six years Uncle Sam has had this matter exclusively in his hands, and has treated the transaction of the interest on the 3.65 bonds as disposed of in the compromise settlement of 1878, when the District's bankruptcy was adjusted. There has never been a question of proof of such a clearing adjustment until lately, when interests avowedly hostile to the organic act became active and fer-reted out details of federal bookkeeping which after the lapse of years technically showed a District indebtedness. The United States, having full charge of the books and of the appropriations, accepted the account as closed. Now, denying that the statute of limitations applies in the District's favor, it is sought to collect a claim that, under every consideration of equity, should be regarded

If the municipal expenditures between 1847 and 1878 are to be readjusted on the half-and-half basis, all the items of this account should be stated and considered jusively that in such full accounting for the four years the United States paid less than half of the municipal expenses, and that on an equitable readjustment it would be indebted to the District.

be revived in favor of the United States, then they must also, in consist-ency and fairness, be revived in favor of

they do not throw themselves. it is always easier for a Mexican

general to grant concessions than it is o guarantee delivery of the goods.

ereary to make haste.

A White House Caller.

Representative Smith of the Buffalo armies. district performed a valuable service yesterday when he went to the White House and had a heart-to-heart talk with the President on the subject of New York putronage. There are no details, but the conversation must have been interesting. Mr. Smith had views and information it was worth the Preswhile to consider, while the

The White House has been called "a bility in the matter of this man's penfool's paradise." The occupant, while in one way very powerful, is in another way very helpless. He is forced to lain board, accepted him as a firelean upon others for much information man upon his application. There is no about men and their political strength record of intentional deception prac-

himself or a friend. Jollying the President is not only a rule, but regarded as a necessity. He hears only praise, duty last December, and it would seem ing the war into Eden.

and lacks the time, and maybe the disosition, to discount it properly. Any man so placed would be a marvel if he ild not now and then obey the wrong "steer" as to patronage. Even with to which he would unquestionably have the best intentions, he is bound at been entitled had it not been for the

spoils variety, and therefore the fuller is any technicality it should be waived f danger. The President is expected to place the patronage at his disposal in the District service after having where it will do his party the most been accepted as sound by the District's good. If it were a matter only of findng a competent lawyer of good repute to represent the government in that federal judicial district there would be no difficulty. But the nominee, in addiion to ability and character, should be acceptable to the regular party organization, and possess more or less of a "pull" himself. In office he should be able to strengthen his party within the

zone of his service. There is where the shoe pinches. The New York regulars contend that the President has obeyed the wrong 'steer"; that he has been persuaded to make war on the men who made him, and that if he persists in his course he will injure the New York democracy and through it the national democracy From their point of view, the President will himself suffer in the end if he does not turn from the irregulars to them.
It is not too late for the President to turn, although it will not be easy for him to execute the maneuver. He has led so aggressively and successfully in

such matters since taking charge, it

may irk him to accept even a mild re-

The Philippines. before the Senate Philippines committee now considering the House bill granting the Filipinos a larger share in the conduct of their affairs are former President Taft and former Commissioner Worcester. Both men, from full information gathered while serving in the islands, have written and spoken much on the subject of American control there-what has been done and finished it.' what remains to be done in furtherance of American responsibility assumed under the treaty of Paris. They will be heard now with much respect.

These men profess, and have manifested in office, sincere friendship for the Filipinos, and have made a study of their conditions, capabilities and needs. Mr. Taft filled the office of governor general so acceptably to the people of the archipelago that they testiied upon his departure for home to enthusiastic appreciation of his services. honor.

On the broad proposition of independence for the Filipinos, Mr. Taft about turning on the steam along a holds now, as he held then and as they Christmas time." knew he held, that they are not pre pared as yet for such a responsibility, and will not be for years to come. He wishes them well. He concedes to their nen of light and leading a quick intelligence and patriotic purpose. But with his large knowledge of what independent government is, and what is required of the rank and file of those who support it, he thinks that not for a generation at least will the Filipinos be ready to fill the bill.

The whole question of independence should be deferred. We should cross that bridge when we reach it.

Let us suppose a case. Suppose that, say six years ago, this government had yielded to the agitators in the Philippines and to the Aguinaldo Aid Society here at home, and not only promised independence to the Filipinos, but fixed a day for the withdrawal of the American forces. Take January 1, 1915, as the day.

At that time the great nations were all at peace. The struggle between Russia and Japan was at an end. The east was as quiet as the west.

Today both east and west are in awful commotion. To a degree, Japan is a party to the European war. Would this be a fit time for the termination and not merely the item of interest in the and the inauguration of an independent cipal finance committee has shown connot be adding fuel to flames? Does anybody believe that in such circumstances such a promise would be, or should be, kept?

By suspending the proposed new Baltimore and Ohio commutation rates until April, in order to hear the protests of Washington. If the District of today is commuters, who allege serious discrimto be held responsible for any neglected inations in the new schedule, the interdebts of the District be ore the act of state commerce commission prevents, settlement it must also have the benefit or at least postpones, what would seen of old Washington's unsatisfied equities to be an injustice against a large num-and partly unpaid credits. Official re-ber of railroad patrons. The Baltimore ports and records state in plain terms and Ohio commuters are more fortunate

skirmishes without pressing too closely on the United States border.

So long as Turkish officials insist on

President had views and explanations of equal importance to Mr. Smith. The probability is that the New York sit pation will be affected—and maybe for the better—by the visit. If at all, for the better. The situation, from the prior to his entering the department, democratic point of view, could not be trict can absolve itself from responsiman upon his application. There is no and relation. He has a great many appointments to make; and the pressure of employment by the District as a upon him in some cases is heavy.

This makes his calling list long. And chronic affliction incapacitating him

to be the plainest equity for the District to stand by its own enlistmen of the man and rate him as disabled been entitled had it not been for the discovery of an epileptic condition extimes to make mistakes.

The New York controversy is of the isting prior to his enrollment. If there in favor of a man who risked his life

own examiners. Washington's ball players may be able to keep up a good average of interest in their games, instead of limiting the thrills to the performances of a star pitcher.

There will always be a certain objection to recognizing the right of any nation, however friendly, to issue permits for the use of the ocean.

Some interest attaches to the where abouts of the Zeppelins Germany has been building for several months

#### SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON

Disguise Impossible. "Do you intend to play Santa Claus

this year?" "No," replied Mr. Chuggins. "There's trying to make believe he travels with a neat little reindeer outfit. His family can spot him immediately by the gaso line and the soot."

#### Shattered Self-Importance.

"For a little while I flattered myself that my wife was sitting up till after midnight waiting for me to com-"Wasn't she?

"No. She was reading a best-seller, and couldn't go to sleep till she had

#### Historic Solemn Warning.

ne ancient systems have been found Where tax collectors fierce would range To take whatever might be found, And never once say, "Keep the change.

#### Preparedness.

"Yes," said Mr. Growcher; "I like an early winter. I'd like to crowd the cold weather in so as to get through with most of it before January." "Isn't that rushing things a little?" "Perhaps. But I can't help noticing that the janitor seems more generous

#### Thraldom.

"Her husband never leaves the house vithout her knowing it." "How does she manage it?"

"She buys him neckties that he can' ossibly tie without her assistance."

"Imitation," said Uncle Eben, "is de greatest flattery; but dat ain' no satis-faction. Chicken stealin' ain' no less because it's due to overwhelmin' admiration foh yoh special poultry collection."

#### Shifting Standards. In days gone by a citizen of prominence

once said He hoped that we would all be law abiding,

And never have an impulse, when copper showed his head. To get up speed and maybe go in hiding.

He vowed a worthy record, based or conduct all exact, With accuracy always could be tested. Your high position was secure if you

could show the fact That you as yet had never been ar-

rested. But in the course of time that citizen advanced in wealth, In high finance continually striving.

He rode out in a motor car to benefit his health, And often was detained for rapid

Indictments, too, were found becaus of deals that he had made. By legal minions he was much mo lested. And then he said, "A man i

lowly. I'm afraid. Unless he's very frequently arrested.

#### Neutrality and the Sale of Arms. From the Springfield Republican

both and records state in plain terms that there stands unsatisfied to date an equitable claim of \$16,150,773.74\$ in favor of the District, the excess of local expenditures for national and local purposes within this jurisdiction from 1720 to 1876. This claim is stronger even than that now advanced by certain legislators for a fefund o. Interest paid more than thirty six years ago, for it has been formally noted many times in terms of a demand for settlement, whereas the present federal claim was not stated for more than a third of a century after the transaction.

English writers of fiction who forctoid a bombardment of their country have been sustained by events. Great Britain naturally expects that the unanimous predictions of ultimate triumph by her novelests will prove equally reliable.

One of the ironies of fate is the development of war in such a manner that The Hague is pretty nearly surrounded by anti-peace demonstrations.

The English militant suffragettes are properly opposed to any missiles which they do not throw themselves.

#### Two Kinds of Camps.

rom the Cleveland Leader, So long as Turkish officials insist on opening letters from Americans, the safe course will be to send only picture post cards of an entirely hon-committal character.

Carelessness in handling weapons has always been a defect in Mexican armies.

That is one of the striking declarations in President Wilson's latest message to Congress. Mr. Wilson, in what seems a half-hearted defense of the ultra-extreme anti-militarism of some of his administration officials, has here betrayed himself into an unfairness not characteristic of him. Nobody wants to turn America into an officials, has here betrayed himself into an unfairness not characteristic of him. Nobody wants to turn america into an armed camp in the sense obviously intended by him. But in the case of an attempted invasion of this country by one or more nations strong in regiments and warships we should be prepared to turn it into an armed camp if need be. And those who protest the most vehemently that there never can be such an invasion were equally positive not many weeks ago that the present European war was impossible. Wars spring out of conditions which are sometimes uncontrollable and created with lightning-like suddenness, and all the theories, convictions and sentlment in the world can't change those conditions. "We shall not turn America into an armed camp." That is one of the strik-

#### Shifting Responsibility.

Before the House reduces the mileage rate to 5 cents upon the expectation of the Senate restoring the old twenty-cent gouge we advise it to remember what happened when it persisted in putting upon the upper body the re-sponsibility for permitting the sale of liquor in the United States Capitol.

#### Garden of Eden.



THE EVENING STAR, FRIDAY. DECEMBER 18, 1914.

#### STINEMET 7 12th and F Sts.

## "He" Always Appreciates

Furnishings -Select the gift furnishings here with the assurance that "If it comes from Stinemetz he won't want to exchange it."

Neckwear-Special line of manufacturers' samples - rich colorings and exclusive effects. \$1 and \$1.50 values, at ......65c

Handkerchiefs - Pure Irish linen, with handembroidered initials -25c and 50c.

Silk Hosiery — Shades that please - qualities that wear - 25c and

Shirts - For day and dress-the kind men appreciate.

Gloves - Evening and Street Gloves - also Gauntlets for motor-

If it comes from Stinemetz he won't want to exchange it.

#### Shop Early for Xmas.

# Big Stock of Leather Gift Goods

You'll find plenty to interest and appeal to you in this big Christmas collection of Leather Goods and Novelties. Suitable and useful gifts for everybody at pleasingly-rea-sonable prices.

Cigar Cases, 50c to \$12. Playing Cards, 50c to \$7.50 Travelers' Clocks, \$1 to \$16.50. Cigarette Cases, 50c to \$6.

Bill Folds, 50c to \$5. Bill Books, 50c to \$10. Jewel Cases, 75c to \$5. Music Cases, \$1 to \$10. Sewing Baskets, 25c to \$7.50. Medicine Cases, 50c to \$6.50. Garment Sets, \$1 to \$3.50. Flat Brushes, \$1 to \$5. Collar Bags, 75c to \$4. Flasks, 75c to \$7.50. Drinking Cuns 25c to \$2 50 Handbags, \$1 to \$35. Suit Cases, \$1 to \$40. Traveling Bags, \$5 to \$35.

**KNEESSI'S** 

#### 425 7th St. Trunks

**Percolators** 

Barber & Ross

The latest and best Coffee Percolators,

\$1.75 to \$6.50

Coffee Machines, in copper and copper nickel-plated, from \$5 to \$12. Electric Percolators,

\$5, \$7.50 and \$8.50

# Chafing Dishes

Full-size Chafing Dishes, metal lining. Priced from

\$3.50 to \$30.00

Complete Chafing Dish Sets, all necessary requisites, priced from \$8.00 to \$35. Chafing Dish Spoons

and Forks, 75c to \$2.50. Chafing Dish Flagons, \$1.75 to \$3.50. Chafing Dish Trays, from \$1.50 to \$9.00.

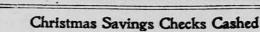
# Barber & Ross 11th & G Sts.

Best Quality COAL

Lowest Prices or C. O. D. delivery east of 17th and south of sta. and in Brookland, while streets are clear snow and ice. hite Ash Store, \$7.10. Large Furnace, \$6.60. Chestnut, \$7.25. Obestnut, \$7.25. W. A. Egg. \$6.85.

Pea. \$5.50 per ton.

We handle only the best grade of coal that can
be bought, and guarantee 2,240 pounds to every
ton. Prices subject to change without notice,
Established 40 years. JOHN MILLER & CO.,





A. LISNER. Hours, 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. G STREET



# This 50c Train for 29c



A train that runs by clockwork, on a circular track, a partial view of which is given in the picture. For sale, with the dolls, on Street Floor,

Graphophone Talking Machines, 69c

### Dressed Dolls, \$1.00 to \$1.98

Mothers and their children are invited to tomorrow's doll party in Dolltown-on street floor-rear of the elevators. Dressed Dolls will be seen that will delight the children-and mothers when they learn the prices are only \$1.00 to \$1.98.

#### Christmas Trees, 19c, 25c and \$1.00

Each in substantial stand, each tree supplied with candle holders and 3 dozen wax candles.

#### 25c Picture Books, 17c 3 for 50c.

Many titles-including Andersen's Fairy Tales, Alice in Wonderland, Arabian Nights, Nursery Rhymes.

# "Her" Best Christmas Present

She Knows It Must Have Cost \$5.00 at Least.

Such a bag did cost \$5.00-if selected at the stores where the regular price is asked. It should cost \$5.00-because worth every cent of the

> 79 On Street Floor. Here Tomorrow at \$1

No promise made for how long-47 of these Mesh Bags go on sale with the opening of the store tomorrow morning and will remain on sale until all are sold. Note the specifications-real German's ver, guaranteed not to tarnish; double mesh, guaranteed not to break; kid or double silk linings. \$1.79 for choice. A few small sizes, for children, at only

# "His" Derby, Silver Sets. "Her"

Brush, Comb and Mirror Sets, facsimile of sterling silver designs; guaranteed not to tarnish or dent.

Brushes-Military Brushes for "him"-have guaranteed bristles. Prices, \$4.25 and \$5.00 per set. Each in attractive box. Warranted for ten (10) years.

\$1.00

Sterling Silver-So Stamped and Guaranteed.

Sterling Silver Five - piece Manicure Sets in silk-lined boxes. Special \$1.69

Sterling Silver Manicure Set-buffer, scissors, file, hook, horn, two jars and cuticle \$3.50 knife. \$5.00 value..... Table of \$1.00 Presents Including Values Up to \$2.50.

Choice of Large Gold Clocks, 12-inch Gold Mirrors, Shaving Sets in Lined Boxes, Dull Brass Tobacco Jars and Smoking Sets, Flower Holders, Pictures in Frames, Tie Holders, Jewel Cases, Pictures in Metal Frames. Also one-of-a-kind pieces that comprised the sames of the importing house.
Street Floor-Main Aisle-Facing Elevators.

Ladies' Heavy Sterling Silver Comb, Brush and Mirror Sets, in velvet-lined cases. Special \$10

Men's Heavy Sterling Silver Military Brushes—two—in velvet-lined case. Spe- \$5.00

Including Values Up to \$1.50. Choice of Sterling Silver Inlay Pepper and Salt Sets, Silver-plated Lemon Dishes with Horseradish Jars, Smelling Salts Bottles Filled with Salts. Nut Picks Sets in Lined Boxes, Three-bottle Castors, Cigar Jars with Silver Tops, Puff Jars, Hair Receivers, Real Gun Metal Cigarette Cases.

Table of 50c Presents

# Table of 25c Presents

#### Choice of Gold Filled Cuff Buttons, Sets of Three Circle Pins, Sets of Cuff Buttons with Tie Clip, Sets of Two Beauty Pins and Bar Pin. Two Sterling Silver Hat Pins, Enamel Bar and

Including Values Up to \$100.

Beauty Pin Sets, Long Chains of Bright Jet or Mourning Beads—all nicely boxed. Street Floor—Main Aisle—Facing Elevators.

# 25c---See Tables---Near Elevators---Street Floor---50c

Values to \$1.00, 25c Fine Batiste Collar and Cuff Sets and Separate Collars, Vestees, Bows and Crepe de Chine Ties.

Values to \$2.00, 50c Chiffon, Net and Lace Vestees; also Collar and Cuff Sets, Maline Ruffs and Novelties.

Values to \$2.50, \$1.00 Chiffon, Net and Shadow Lace Collar and Cuff Sets, hemstitched; others lace



Scarfs, \$1 to \$10.98 Chiffon and Crepe de Chine Scarfs

Ruffs, \$2.50 to \$5.98 Ostrich Feather Neck Ruffs, finished

Marabou Capes, Plack and natural, 82.

# Leather Bags, Worth \$5.00, at Only \$3.00



Traveling Cases, real leather, fitted with Ivory Brush, Mirror, Comb and Manicure \$20.00 Articles. \$30.00 value. Real Leather Party Boxes.
fitted with Comb, Mirror, Puff
Box, Scent Bottle, Pin Box,
Writing Tablet and
Pile, Gold-plated trimmings, \$6.00 value... \$5.00 Beaded Bags, many beautiful designs, littled with inside pecket, chain handle. \$15.00 value....\$9.00

Fitted With Purse, Mirror, Fuff Box, Hairpin Box and Scent Bottle.

Give

Evening Bags, white with black and green striped silk, with ribbon handle, fitted with Pins and \$5.00 Leather Hand Bags, warranted genuine seal, leather lined, fitted with Purse and Mirror, leather strap handle, \$5.00

Pin Seal Leather Hand Eags melon shape, silk lined, fitted with Purse and Mirror, wide strap handle, \$10.00 \$8.00 value

Pin Seal Leather Hand Bags,
covered frame, silk lined, fitted
with Purse and Mirror,
wide ribbon handle, \$7 \$5.25

Saffian Leather Medicine C

\$5.00 and \$7.75.

east of Eleventh.

A Smoking Jacket

At Nearly Half the Usual Price.

Or a Bath Robe

new Men's Shop to New York-to look over his

stock and arrange for a pre-Christmas "clean-

Results are that Smoking Jackets worth \$5 to \$15.00 are \$3.75, \$5.00 and \$8.00.

Bath Robes worth \$4.00 to \$15.00 are \$2.45,

Men's shop entrance is on G-two doors

The maker lately invited the chief of this



# The New Men's Shop

The Safe Shop for Sweethearts and Wives. Usual 50c Cravats, 29c

Such a claim would be absurd-if the fact was not generally known that over 1,000 dozen of these Cravats were lately acquired and are being distributed so rapidly that all will be gone days before Christmas.

half dozen. A special table full-for sweethearts and wives-near Eleventh street door. Suitably boxed for presentation-free of exfra charge.

\$1.00 "Marian Harland" Cof-fee Pots, nickel plated, 2-cup 89c \$298 Percolators, \$2.25 \$2.98 Rocheste Solid Copper, Nickel-plated Coffee Percu-lators with glass top. 9- \$2.25 \$1.48 Tea Kettles, \$1.19 39c Salts and Peppers, 25c

\$1 Coffee Pots, 89c

39c Cut Glass Sait and Pepper Shakers, with silver tops. 25c 39c Cracker Jars, 25c 39c Austrian China Cracker Jars, nicely decorated in assorted 25c colors..... 

# Many are selecting a dozen and very many a

BASEMENT FLOOR Only 4 Seconds-By 4 Elevators. 29c Candlestick, 19c Bissell's Sweepers. \$2.75

s2.48 Crumo Tray and conper, copper or nickel finished, \$1.75 \$1.39 Fern Dishes, 98c \$1.98 Shoe Box, \$1.25

\$1.98 Solid Oak Shoe Blacking Boxes, carpet top and from \$1.25 foot rest .....

29c Cut Glass Effect Candle-sticks, colonial shape...... 19c

\$2.48 Crumb Trays, \$1.75

Pedestal, 26 inches high, with 10 inch Jardiniere. \$3.25 98c Candle Lamps, 50c 98c Brass Candle Lamps, complete for oil or candle, assorted color 50c

The Bissell Carpet Sweepers, ak finish, fully guaran- \$2.75

\$3.98 Combinations, \$3.25

Six 10c Salt Dips, 45c 10c Individual Glass Salt 45c Dips, with plated rims. 6 for

29c Sugars and Creams, 19c \$1.00 Punch Sets. 79c 

\$1.25 Coaster Sets, 89c \$1.25 Coaster Sets, nickel plated with star cut glass bottom, large tray with handle; 6 coasters 89c \$1.79 Flower Vases, \$1.48 \$1.79 Bohemian Art Glass Flower Vases, assorted colors and \$1.48 decorations, 14 inches high

\$248 Serving Travs. 980 \$2.48 Serving Trays plekel-plated rims and handles. Decorated tile bottom, oval and round 98c

G Street

A. Lisner

The Greater Palais Royal